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The following from the news dispatches is so rich that we reproduce it entire:

"Belgrade, June 7.—More scandals in the royal palace! Politicians and others now make their calculations according to 'Draga and Helen days.' Draga days are those when the queen assumes supreme command over King Alexander, and when, in consequence, her favorites have the upper hand. On Helen days her majesty's sister, 'Princess' Helen, is actual ruler of the kingdom, dispensing favors, securing the royal signature, pardons, grants and the passage or veto of laws, the king being a mere plaything in the hands of the royal sisters.

"Just now Helen is on top and rumor has it that Draga will be sent to a nunnery and divorced by decree of the Metropolitan. Helen's triumph is due to her victory in a fist encounter with her majesty. The latter found King Alexander in Helen's apartments and proceeded to pull out Helen's hair by the handful when the princess grabbed a footstool and knocked the queen down. Draga was revived with difficulty. This was not the first time Draga and Helen fought over the king, who invariably sides with the winner. Doubtless Draga will be ousted in the end, as Helen is not only more vigorous, but also younger and prettier than the queen."

These royal parasites that the people maintain simply out of ignorance, are a fine brood! But as the intelligence of the people increases, kings, queens and even presidents will gradually lose their "sacredness."

"For nearly three years the Root-Miles storm has been gathering. Soon after the death of President McKinley it escaped from the War Department to which his firm hand had confined it, and began to run wild. It is now raging and roaring through the Capital, strewn with chambers and committee-rooms of both branches of the Congress with melancholy wrecks of political calculations. And it will presently be careening through the country where the storm signals in warning of its approach have long been flying." So says a writer in the Saturday Evening Post.

It is part of the function of the rulers of an alleged republic like this, just as it is of any other country, to provide mental opiates for the masses who toil—something to get their minds away from their own abject condition, something to deaden their sense of self-consciousness. They give them scandals, war talk, conflicts between officials, Roosevelt-Booker Washington dinners, parades of soldiery, presidential or Prince Henry visits, or Root-Miles spats, and what not, and the foolish people swallow the bait and forget their hunger pains. There is many a workman just now wondering how Miles feels or what Root thinks, who ought to be considering his own precarious situation in life and his and his family's rights to a grand living in return for his long hours of stupefying toil.

But as we say, it is the business of the rulers to keep his mind away from such "peace-disturbing" thoughts and so all the capitalist newspapers and magazines are filled with things to thus distract his attention. Look over the contents of the periodicals on the newsstands and you will see that this is so. The capitalist class knows its business.

A principal in a Milwaukee school made this remark: "No woman teacher should remain in the service more than ten years. The service does them up in that time." To which another principal responded: "My school can do up a teacher in four years!"

Now, the teachers work thus exhaustively for the poorest sort of pay and to thus use them up and then toss them out when there is no further use for them, is one of the "humorous" incidents of twentieth century humanity, under the sway of capitalism. How amusing it is, to be sure! What a fine piece of bargaining! Buying a teacher's time and her health and her nerves, for a few paltry dollars—it's cheaper than in slavery days, when the worker was property and his condition had to be kept up, and under penalty of deterioration in the "prop-

Our strenuous ruler, the incorrigible Roosevelt, doesn't propose to be criticized, it appears. When the people's servants consider themselves above criticism, look out! A girl who works for her living as a clerk in one of the departments at Washington wrote a letter to the papers criticizing the government's actions in the Philippines, and Teddy issued an order modifying a civil service rule and then used the modified rule as authority for firing the girl. The girl can now look for another job. But Teddy's job is secure.

What has become of our boasted liberties in this country when men can be blacklisted for belonging to a union, and hounded from one end of the country to the other? And yet it serves us right. If we allow a small class to have the power, we must not be surprised when they make use of it. A scant and anxious living for, never-ending drudgery is labor's portion to-day, in order that the few may have the power to oppress.

Man and the horse are the only animals that work under capitalism, and on looking over the members of the animal kingdom we find that, together with some domesticated animals that man has gotten away from their natural care-free ways, man is the only animal that is subject to disease. A factory worker whose employment only exercises a certain set of muscles, soon shows the effects by losing the natural symmetry of his body. No one accuses the wild animals of being lazy, yet they enjoy plenty of leisure, are sleek and evenly developed and muscular and active. They live their natural length of life, while the overworked factory drudge pines out after a few years and dies before his time. And all this that capital can have its increase! Private coaches on Prospect avenue mean empty stomachs in some of the poorer parts of the city.

In 1890 there were 2,309 children employed in the mills of South Carolina. In 1900 they had increased to 8,560, with an average annual wage of \$99.22, or 33 cents per day.

We dedicate the above to Senator Beveridge and other voluble and cocky mouthpieces of Yankee capitalism, and to the smooth beguilers of the populace who will soar in Fourth of July speeches next month. Truly, this present civilization of ours is great, simply great!

Col. Frank D. Baldwin, U. S. A., is a "civilized" being, who says that the "Moros must be wiped out before there will be peace in the Philippines." He is probably right and it reminds us of Gen. Smith's order to make Samar a "howling wilderness." It means that there can be no peace while there are any inhabitants left living. But the capitalists must not kill off all the labor-power over there. If they do it will spoil their game of getting cheap factory hands.

New Zealand has condemned and taken over 252,936 acres of agricultural land in the last three years, and put it up in small farms for settlers, and for state owned and worked farms.

Well, suppose this country condemned and took over the coal fields! Why not? and paid the wages that ought to be paid for such risky, dismal work as mining coal, and organized the men in short shifts and gave them several months' vacation with pay each year, and took over the transportation lines to stop the freight rate robberies, and supplied the coal to the people at cost! Do you think there would be any more striking and starving and shooting in the coal districts? Now why can't it be done? Do you object, Mr. Worker? And you, Mr. Clerker, have you any objections?

Anyone who thinks the preachers don't get caught in the toils of capitalistic cannibalism thinks wrong. The last general assembly shows that the Presbyterian church has 1,600 ministers without any employment and 3,300 in churches which are not self-sustaining because having but an average member-

THE MISTAKE IN BELGIUM.

Since the unsuccessful "general strike" and the abortive revolution in Belgium, there has been a great deal said, especially in Socialist circles, in regard to that country. The leaders, Vandervelde and Anseele, have been regarded as chiefly at fault, and the blame has been thrown on the alliance with the Liberals, which paralyzed the "revolutionary energy," as goes the cant expression of the Socialist jargon.

A careful examination of the facts gives the lie to these revolutionary phrases. To make a revolution, in the sense of the phrase, one must have fire-arms. In 1789, 1830 and 1848 the revolutionists had at their disposal a sufficient quantity of weapons and ammunition to risk a fight. At the rise of the Commune, the workmen of Paris had possession of 500,000 modern weapons and a large number of cannon.

Was such the case this year in Belgium? Emphatically not. Belgium is a country with a rapidly growing population, with large industries. Until the year 1886 the two-party system ruled, Liberals and Conservatives contended for the supremacy. Only since 1886 has a Socialist party been in existence, which at first occupied itself chiefly with associations. Politically a free movement is permitted. There is no large landed proprietorship, but the Catholic clergy are a political power; in little Belgium there are about 40,000 priests. The union of the Liberals and Socialists embraces 65 representatives; there are still ten lacking for a majority.

In Belgium the mistake has been made of carrying on compromise politics and at the very same time giving the rein to revolutionary phrases, and people ought to know that this will not work. The recent struggles have proved that a revolution without a systematic arming of the people, although with the human material ready at hand, is absolutely impossible.

The revolutionary phrase has absolutely suffered bankruptcy in Belgium. Nothing remains for the Belgian Socialists at present but to make further compromises with the Liberals. By this means at least the introduction of universal education may be pushed through.

But for the general Socialist movement the Belgian struggle has given proof that the phrase "Social revolution" is a fearful humbug so long as the people are almost or entirely unarmed. Vandervelde and Anseele, after all the mistakes that have been made, have rendered a great service to their country by restraining the workmen from extreme measures and thus preventing a repetition of the horrors of the "battle of June," and the massacres of Pere La Chaise, with this difference, moreover, that the Parisians of 1793 and 1871 were very well armed, while the Belgians had nothing but cheap revolvers, sticks and paving stones, and the instruments of murder used by the soldiers are now infinitely more perfect than in those days.

The American party also ought to make a clean sweep of stupid phrases and senseless catchwords.

Victor L. Berger.

In Japan every child is taught to write with both hands. Say, that's great! It ought to be done here, too, for no child can tell whether or not it will have to go into the factories, and there is such a good chance there of losing one hand or the other in the machinery. But, stay, come to think of it, the children that go into the factory don't get much chance in the schools!

We take pleasure in stating that applications for stock in The Herald Company are still coming in, and that the paper is now in every sense the property of the comrades. The shares are \$5 each, and it has been arranged so that payments of 50 cents a week are taken. Get in line, comrades, these are golden moments when every stroke means multiplied power for the future.

The daily papers say the labor market is "injured" by the department stores. What do you suppose they mean by "injured"? Simply that young men flock to the department store counters and leave the manual trades. This makes labor scarce and the plutocrats think this is bad for the labor market. If it was our guess, we should say it was a good thing for the labor market, as it has a tendency to raise wages, but then the newspapers look at it through capitalistic spectacles, being owned by capitalists.

Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago, has written a book, entitled "Democracy and Social Ethics," of which the Chicago American says: "It is the most illuminating single book on American life ever put forth." From the few published excerpts of the book we select the following:

All about us are men and women who have become unhappy in regard to their attitude toward the social order itself. They work, the pleasure narrowed down to those of appetite, the declining consciousness of brain power, and the lack of mental food which characterize the lot of the large proportion of their fellow citizens. These men and women have caught a moral challenge raised by the exigencies of contemporary life; some are bewildered, others who are denied the relief which sturdy action brings are even seeking no escape, but all are increasingly anxious concerning their actual relations to the basic organization of society.

Gen. Miles, it appears, has not been called to Washington to be disciplined. But the fact that it was through him that it was discovered that fets from the Philippines were being suppressed does not help his standing in Washington. Of this incident the Saturday Evening Post says:

"This was the first intimation the Congress and the country had had that Mr. Root had been suppressing official reports. Instantly there was a demand that the suppressed 'letter' and 'other communications' be forthwith published. And it was impossible to disregard this demand. From the dusty pigeonholes of Mr. Root's department out into the full light of day, came all the documents he had been hoarding with an instinct born of his training as a corporation lawyer. If he had made each report public at the time of its receipt there would still have been a stir. But, given out thus, in a mass, reluctantly and under compulsion, the suppressed reports caused a convulsion. The storm is still raging, with no sign of abatement over 'water-cures,' little girls shot down for failing to answer a sentry's challenge, children put to the sword, fire and rapine."

McKinley did not regard Miles favorably and allowed Secretary of War Alger to push his pet, the unspeakable gross Shafter, to the front. But the working people need Miles no more sympathy than any of the others, for it was Miles who a year or so ago advised fortifying all the government buildings with cannon and rapid fire guns to train on the streets in cases of uprisings of the people.

Owing to the fact that his parochial duties require his presence in Bellevue until each Sunday night, Father McGrady has been obliged to cancel his Wilkes-Barre engagement to speak on Labor Day, it being impossible for him to reach that place in time, and to this fact Milwaukee owes its good fortune in getting him for the Federated Trades' Council picnic. He will speak in the afternoon, and, if possible, a meeting will be arranged for him at Waukesha in the evening, by the Socialists. Some other points may also be covered before he starts back to Bellevue.

An interesting incident of the convention of the Western Federation of Miners at Denver, was the reading of a letter from Paul Corcoran, the miner who was sent to the penitentiary at the time of the Coeur d'Alene affair. He begged the convention to work for a labor vote and expressed hope that the capitalistic political enemies of the miners in his state would thus meet their deserved dismissal from office. "We want to make a Socialist state of Idaho," he said.

"Suppose we are on a sinking ship, and some of us have a well-defined plan of escape. But suppose among those who understand the plan are a few who, instead of acquainting the balance of the passengers with the merits of the plan, persist in using their time in disciplining the others as to the method of presenting the plan. Now if I feel that their constant criticism, frequently accompanied with hints as to the motives of those who are trying to teach the plan, are to a certain extent hindering the spread of the plan and destroying the interest which many of them have in it, and I protest against too much of this criticism, is my protest a paradox? And by it do I injure the 'class struggle,' 'surplus value,' or the 'materialistic conception of history'?"

The heresy-hunters are after Comrade Rogers of the People's Paper of Santa Barbara, who in his last issue printed this very good illustration of rational propaganda as opposed to sectarian dogmatism.

The heresy hunters are still trying to maintain a reign of terror, with sorry results, however. Recently they made it so unpleasant for Wayland that he took down his catch-line "public ownership of monopolies" in the Appeal and put up instead, "For the ownership of the earth, and the fullness thereof," which is no very decided improvement so far as present tactical propaganda is concerned. One would have expected them to go gunning also for Wilshire for his "Let the nation own the trusts," which is simply stating Wayland's former shibboleth in different words, but that they have not is explained by the fact that he does not run a low-priced weekly paper and is therefore not a competitor worth injuring.

We clip the following from a paper printed for farmers:

"I send a sample of wheat that was left in my absence from home. Is there anything poisonous in it, and what kind of weed seed? Answer.—It is a very poor sample, much of the wheat is shrunken, and it is very foul, containing wild oats, wild buckwheat, cockle, pig-weed, grass, mustard and other sorts; but we cannot tell if any of the seeds are of poisonous plants."

Talk of the human brotherhood that has been preached these many years—there is mighty little of it. Instead, there is universal and justifiable distrust. Everyone is on his guard. And the people are sick of it! That farmer who sent in the above query, most likely is himself sighing for an honest world. Long experience makes him suspect some rascality when a sample of wheat is left at his door by a stranger, and even to think some neighbor is trying to burn his crops. But rascality will exist as long as the chances are so slim for living decently by honest toil, and men are practically forced into evil deeds and tricky practices.

"Dietrich Buelher of 195 Austin avenue, an employee of the Nordberg Manufacturing Company, was bending over a revolving shaft Saturday when his clothing was caught and he was drawn tightly against the rod and whirled violently several times before the clothing gave way and he was thrown to the floor stripped from head to foot. A few bruises on the body were his only injuries."

This is merely one of the ways the men in the factories have of getting variety out of life. They don't mind it. The danger of their employment does not increase their wages—there are too many ready to step into their places if they don't like what they get!

A daring exchange says that this country should be called a Republic instead of a Republik!

Wayback in 1834 old Daniel Webster hit it about as squarely as anybody could when he said: "The laboring man, what can he heard? Preying on nobody, he becomes the prey of all!"

Is it possible? A Western exchange says President Gompers sent out a letter advising unionists to take independent political action along the line that has caused such a furore in a number of cities during the past year. Then, again, Business Agent Anderson, of the Milwaukee Trades Council, who recently had an interview with Mr. Gompers in Washington, reports that the latter declared that present-day developments are ushering in socialism, but he thought the casting of a "silent vote" at this time would result in securing concessions from legislators, but just what concessions is not mentioned. To our mind a "silent vote" has been cast for at least a quarter of a century—the Republican trade unionists "silently" voted for their party and lived on hope; the Democrats did likewise, and occasionally they switched, but the politicians only laughed in their sleeves. However, we are glad to learn that Mr. Gompers appreciates the fact that "no politics" in the trade union movement has been laid on the shelf.—Cleveland Citizen.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," says the proverb. It is no different when he is grown up! Take a street car man in Milwaukee, for instance, who is forced to work seven days out of seven and ten hours each day, for pay so small that his few leisure hours are filled with worries that rob life of its zest—is that for the best of society? In New Zealand, where organized labor some years ago took control and drove the voracious capitalists out of the legislative halls, and the working people are only allowed by law to work eight hours a day with a weekly half-holiday, the working class is much better off than it is in this baneful land of the people. It has ceased to be a capitalist's paradise and is becoming a workingman's paradise, simply because the real people took control.

"Chicago is overrun with men of leisure, who are without the means for leisure," says the Chicago Tribune in an editorial. That being the case, they are tramps and "bums." If they have the means they are "gentlemen." Great is the capitalist system!

In spite of mismanagement through congressional rascality, a rascally compact with the railroads, and the fact that its many offices are used by the party in power for spoils purposes, the post office system of this country stands forth as an example of the benefits of public ownership over private ownership. The New York Worker to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The Kinn Horn, a religious weekly, publishes a cartoon on the hypocrisy of Christian nations, showing christendom's doorstep covered with all sorts of disgraces. There is a skull with a soldier's cap on it, labeled "War"; a hog labeled "commercial greed," feeding on a barrel of looted valuables from heathen countries, a cannon marked "conquest," a box marked "opium trade," and so on. John Chinaman, who is the object of our capitalist civilization, stands in the class.

To The Herald: The conventions will close today or tomorrow and their work will be complete and glorious. The old politicians and their henchmen who did all in their power to defeat political action on the part of organized labor are stamped and thoroughly alarmed. You would be surprised could you realize what a tremendous change has taken place during the past few days. In this city of 200,000 the one pervading theme, go where you may, is Socialism. The red buttons of our party are in the churches, the stores, the restaurants, and everywhere; stranger meets stranger as comrade, and all are bappy over the inspiring outlook. The one danger that must be guarded against is too rapid growth. There may be trouble from this source, but I am confident that we have a sufficient number of comrades scattered over the state who are well grounded to keep the ship true to her course and guide her safely to her destined port.

Denver, Col., June 6.

While the western labor conventions that declared for Socialism (much to the disapproval of the capitalist press!) were in session at Denver a week ago the Denver papers published the following heart-wringing news item:

"Double murder and suicide was attempted last night by Mrs. Clara Vogel of 800 Fourteenth street. She gave her children, Myrtle and Garret, laudanum, and intended to drink a bottle of the poison herself when they were dead. Her plan was defeated by the children who said the stuff was bitter and they were afraid it was poison. They drank only enough to make them a little sick, and the mother would not kill herself and leave them."

"Oh, does anybody think it was easy for me to dress my children and myself for the grave?" sobbed the woman this morning as she held the little boy to her breast, her tears streaming down over his night dress, as she rocked him passionately to and fro. "I thought my heart would stop beating while I did it but there was nothing else for me to do, I can work. There is not a lazy bone in my whole body but no one will keep me on account of the children. I'd rather die than be separated from them, and I cannot die and leave them behind to be abused."

"Nobody can ever know how my heart has ached. My husband died nearly two years ago and I have tried so hard to keep the children."

"I have tried leaving them and taking work, but then I work all day and cry all night and it breaks me down so that I can't work. I took this room a week ago when I came in from Sawyer's, with the express intention of killing the children and myself."

"Last night I dressed them up in the best clothes they have, all ready to be buried. Oh, it was an awful thing to do, but it was all there was left to me. I went to the different drug stores and bought laudanum, five bottles of it. I bought a bottle of blackberry brandy, too, because the children are fond of it and I thought the color being the same they would drink the laudanum."

And the capitalist Denver paper tried to persuade the labor conventions not to endorse Socialism! They didn't want their members to vote against the system that makes millionaires on the one hand and on the other hand a plundered class finding its logical fruitage in such shocking cases as that given above. Here was a woman fighting against insurmountable odds to give her children the start in life they were entitled to. She was haunted by adversity to the farthest possible extremity—to that point where the instinctive protecting sense of motherhood was ready to take the lives of her own children, for heroic reasons—to save them from an unprotected infancy in a fiendishly selfish and inhuman world.

When human lives are in peril in a burning building, men instinctively rush to extinguish the flames, but so demoralizing is our present-day society, with its necessary rule of "each one for himself and the devil take the hindmost," that the organized workers of the country, through bad leadership, have refused up to now to use their political strength to overthrow the cause of all the working class misery, the capitalist ownership of the means of production.

There is enough and to spare in the world and for every such case of privation on that narrated above, there is some one feasting and wasting. Conscience is not all dead yet, by any means, and millionaires get no great comfort from the reflection that they are almost literally eating the flesh of the poor—that the wealth that flows to their coffers, to minister to their sated pleasure, their whims, comforts and lavish display, leaves the workers, who are the producers, in distress, insecurity and despair. In reading such accounts as that given above, one can almost understand the feeling of retributive justice of the starving working woman who picked out the glistening stone steps of a feasting millionaire, and gashing her throat with a knife, sent her life-blood forth to stain into the marble her impeachment of his class as existing on the misery of her class.

SOCIALISM ON EVERY TONGUE.

To The Herald: The conventions will close today or tomorrow and their work will be complete and glorious. The old politicians and their henchmen who did all in their power to defeat political action on the part of organized labor are stamped and thoroughly alarmed. You would be surprised could you realize what a tremendous change has taken place during the past few days. In this city of 200,000 the one pervading theme, go where you may, is Socialism. The red buttons of our party are in the churches, the stores, the restaurants, and everywhere; stranger meets stranger as comrade, and all are bappy over the inspiring outlook. The one danger that must be guarded against is too rapid growth. There may be trouble from this source, but I am confident that we have a sufficient number of comrades scattered over the state who are well grounded to keep the ship true to her course and guide her safely to her destined port.

Denver, Col., June 6.

Eugene F. O'Leary

foreground and call to the figure of christendom in the doorway, "Ho, there! Your doorstep needs cleaning."

To prevent the lowering of lumber freights in the Lake Superior district, the Lumber Carriers' Association met in Chicago the other day and decided to withdraw eighty tow barges from service, thus throwing at least 1,000 men out of employment. At every grid of the capitalistic mill some poor devils get it in the neck. The man that looks on to-day may be the fellow to cry out with despair to-morrow. But as long as you throw your votes away on the old parties when they might be put where they would mean something you've no kick coming, my fine fellow.

Socialists are being thrown into jail in Porto Rico, while "Old Glory" proudly flutters overhead and the hungry agents of Yankee capitalism are working out the country's "destiny."

A nine-days' wonder—the government fight on the beef trust.

Socialists maintain that equally important with being raised and educated well is the right of the individual, to be born well, and that it is a concern of the race, when this latter is not the fact. But how in it under the present system? Let the following item, taken from a New York paper, make mute, partial answer:

"The Board of Governors of the Lying-in Hospital, in an appeal for funds for the support of the institution, states that in the Borough of Manhattan alone there are annually more than 25,000 women absolutely dependent on charity for care in childbirth. The accommodations provided by the Department of Charities consist of only fifty-six beds."

Under a Socialistic form of society where the burdens and the benefits of the community or the commonwealth were evenly divided, and where no industrious person would know what want was, such a thing as people being badly born would be unknown. There would be no unwelcome children. Motherhood, of all sacred things, would be truly sacred.

WHAT WAS DONE IN DENVER.

Editor Social Democratic Herald: No one who has not been on the ground here can realize what has been done in Denver for Socialism during the past ten days. For the first time in history a great body of workers, almost 200,000 strong, have declared themselves class-conscious in their resolve to win freedom for the race. ***

As my friend, Helen Grey of the Denver Post, puts it, I am "still in the church and not an unfrocked nondescript." If a priest foregoes the routine work of the ministry to lecture on Temperance, or gives up the technical offices of his calling to teach science in some college, or, like the famous Dominican, Dr. Schell, engages in exploring the ruins of Nippur and cataloguing the material in the Royal Ottoman Museum in Constantinople, no one thinks it a demerit of his priestly character. And when he takes the field for Socialism he doubly enhances his sacerdotal office because he is laboring for that economic freedom without which religion is iron-bound in an environment of dishonesty, hypocrisy, hate, murder and death.

Denver, Col., June 5.

Thos. J. Grey

erty." The public school system under present day exploitation of its teachers is a system of vampirism.

The old idea that the people were by nature bad was a fearful slander on the race. The struggle of humanity to break through all sordid and corrupting restraints proves that it was not and is not true. People are what their surroundings compel them to be. Even an apologist for capitalism will have to admit that the capitalistic system has moulded the character of the people and forced them to be selfish. People cheat, steal and exploit others because there is a bread and butter impulse back of it all. If that impulse were not there, and if conditions were so arranged that it would not pay to be dishonest or tricky, the world would be immeasurably sweeter.

ship of forty-six. It has also not been from 4,000 ministers unable to do any church work because too old or sickly and who are in need of assistance to live. The ministers with fair or good salaries would have to be assessed at an average of over \$270 per annum in order to at least give an average annuity of \$500 to each of the 4,000 incapacitated ministers. There is nothing too sacred for capitalism to operate upon, and the ministers get their chance of feeling the "cheering" sensation of a world ruled consciously and boastfully by the law of selfishness and unbrotherliness.

The People's Press says the Republican and Democratic parties of Oregon are running on practically the same platform. They are birds of a feather, each striving to get the job of doing capitalism's dirty work.

ALTGELD'S LAST APPEAL.

The Late Governor of Illinois on Labor's Battles.

A WORD about organized labor. It is inevitable that the principles of the Declaration of Independence should give birth to a movement for the emancipation of labor on the American continent.

The slaves of justice, once in motion, leave the whole lump.

Magna Carta was extorted from King John by the barons. The American Magna Carta gave to all the people the right of political rights, but it left labor in the hands of the parasites.

Independence of labor was the next step in the evolution of human rights. This meant a struggle between the parasites on the one hand and the parasites on the other. Modern society is a parasitic organization.

The church, the bench, the bar; in fact, nearly the whole fabric rests on the backs of the men and women who toil with their hands. It is ridiculous to say that capital makes labor; just the reverse is true. Watch the growth of a new community; there is first the workshop of the mechanic, gradually enlarged by the industry within it, until it becomes a great factory. To be sure, capital is a great convenience, but labor is first.

As a lawyer I belong to the parasites. In our present civilization, I believe the machinery of modern society is necessary, and if controlled by justice, no one would complain. The trouble is that the parasites make and control the laws, and bend everything in their own favor. As a result labor is crushed beneath a weight of injustice. Before he asserted himself the laborer had no voice in anything, and was reduced to a beast of burden. Under the inspiration of his spirit of freedom, he looked at the great head of the universe. Capital being organized nothing could be done by labor without organization, so it organized. Many mistakes were made; it could not be otherwise. Considering how general this is among other classes, this was to be expected.

When all is told the progress of organized labor has been wonderful. It adopted the strike as a weapon because it possessed no other. It has hundreds of strikes, and hundreds of organizations went to pieces; but every time it went to the earth it got new strength and came up again. In a few years it began the fight over, and then years it camped without dispute on the ground from which it had been driven. Step by step it has thus gained one disputed point after another.

Though losing many strikes, it yet went forward, and it must continue to go forward until all men shall get their rights; until the hand of toll shall be given a fair share of its own earnings; until no parasite on this earth, be he king, judge or capitalist, shall dare strike the back of labor with the lash of injustice.

The men who toil with their hands, who clear forests, who build roads, who build ships, who build cities, who build schools and churches, they are the men who make civilization possible. Others are useful, indeed, but the laborer is indispensable; therefore, he must have justice.

As a rule capital can win any strike by outwitting it; capital needs no bread, but labor does.

But it is also true that the victory is generally a barren one, for in a few years labor comes up again, the struggle resumed, and the disputed point is conceded. Labor wins in the end because justice requires it.

It is further true that capital has rarely ever suffered by recognizing organized labor, and dealing directly with the organization.

Only pride has suffered, that is all. And the wiser employers realize this fact and deal directly with the unions.

History shows that a remarkable fatality follows the winning of strikes by capitalistic agents.

A few years ago there was one of the most noted strikes in history by the engineers of a Missouri railroad, with headquarters in St. Louis. A Mr. Hoxie fought the strike for the railroad and in the end won, but he did not long survive; the fates called him away. President Gowen crushed labor on the Reading railway and then went to Atlantic City and blew his brains out.

Mr. Pullman won the strike against the railroad men, but the grass is growing over his grave. He has left only a memory that is odious and a fortune that is the curse of his sons, while organized labor is marching on with new hope and new courage.

Mr. Morgan partly won the steel strike, but organized labor will yet walk over his grave.

But progress never moves continuously upward; sometimes a valley must be crossed. At present labor is facing a crisis.

Trial by jury, free speech and the right of assembly are being strangled. Judges who eat bread that is earned by the sweat of labor make themselves a convenience for parasitic corporations, and try to crush the spirit of the men that earn their bread. Labor must violate no law, commit no crime, wrong no man, but it would preserve the rights God has given and the constitution has guaranteed to every man, then it must pass through the jails of America, not only to preserve its own existence, but to save the very foundations of liberty. If it would not leave to its children a heritage of slavery, then labor must so manfully organize that even if half its number are sent to jail the other half will continue the struggle.

Jails become temples of honor when labor is wrongfully confined there; men wrongfully sent to jail become the world's heroes. It is only wronging the laborer that makes a man a hero. Only disgraces the judge who imposes it. Jails have never destroyed a just cause, and never will so long as there are men left who are worthy of freedom.

Jefferson filled the jails and manured the gibbets of England only to make himself infamous and the cause he persecuted infamous.

During the railroad strike of 1894 Judge Woods went to Chicago and struck down trial by jury and the right of free speech. He sent Debs to jail without a legal trial, and thus made himself the Jefferson of the occasion.

But Woods is dead and Debs lives. The memory of Woods is odious to all men who toil with their hands, while Debs is respected. The hirelings who persecuted Debs when they had no case against him are going down, but organized labor is marching on.

Our great industries are no longer controlled by the men who developed them, but have passed into the hands of a few money changers. The money changers today own America, and they have acquired this power through the aid of government. You remember that when Grover Cleveland was President he not only secured them what laws they wanted, but gave to a Morgan syndicate a secret contract to sell a small batch of bonds, and according to the reports of the first nine decades of the last century, and lastly to the trust stage of today.

"Second—From the condition of independent economy, in which each family isolated itself as far as possible from all other families, to the town economy, in which each town isolated itself from the rest of the country as far as possible, and thence to the national economy, as we found it in our country with the arguments that favored the establishment of the high protective tariff, and lastly to the world economy, in which the production of the world as related to the considerations of demand and cost is a subject of international concern.

"Third—From the barbarous stage in which man slaughtered his enemies, to the slavery stage, and thence to the labor stage of today, in which labor finds itself the object of increasing legal protection.

"Fourth—From the period of truck economy, to the period of money economy, thence to the period of credit economy.

"As we have already passed the stage of money economy, and are well within the period of credit economy, I believe we have entirely grown out of all fear of further consideration of the silver, or cheap money question.

"And I believe that with a further step in the process of industrial evolution we shall approach closely the final stage, the highest yet attained, classified in either of the four divisions cited, and highest as it will be, it will also be the simplest.

liery, but wherever possible the camp trains will be made to do service for two, three or more colonies. Our police will be armed with revolvers, but they will have Winchester rifles HANLEY and plenty of ammunition to use them in.

The firemen and pumpmen are coming out—many men are flooding. In an effort to fill these places the companies have opened headquarters in New York for the purpose of hiring those whom they can induce to go to work. Nearly 100 ax-policemen, sailors and men have been obtained through this source who will receive \$2.50 a day and board and lodging within the companies' stockades under the protection of the state troops.

Clarksburg, W. Va., June 9.—The firm belief existing among operators of the Monongahela river district that the strike movement in this state is being encouraged by operators of the anthracite and other fields in which strikes have cut off the output.

Hazleton, Pa., June 9.—Unable to secure firemen and pump runners, J. S. Wentz & Co. will permit the Hazleton colliery to be flooded.

Corry's Stockton colliery is reported by the mine workers as filling with water owing to the depleted force of firemen and pump men.

At Freeland yesterday the railroad men of the Delaware, Susquehanna &

Washington, D. C., June 6.—The President cannot interfere in the great anthracite coal strike. Attorney General Knox searched in vain to find some law permitting the President to appoint a board of arbitration to settle the strike. The law empowering the President to act in instances similar to the anthracite miners' strike referred to by the New York board of trade WAS REPEALED IN 1898.

New York, June 6.—Senator Hanna and President Mitchell are said to be planning for a truce in the Pennsylvania coal strike, to begin on June 15 and last until October. If President Mitchell can obtain the consent of a majority of the district leaders the men will be ordered back to work.

Reading, Pa., June 9.—With 3200 armed coal and iron police in the region the operators announced that there will be trouble. ARMORED TRAINS OF CARS, with loopholes for rifles and revolvers, were sent to different parts of the Schuylkill coal regions today. They were provided for the use of special policemen at the collieries. An official of the Reading Coal and Iron Company said this evening:

"There will be a camp train, consisting of from one to four cars, at all collieries, and where the operations are isolated there will be a train for each col-

Schuylkill railroad decided to refuse to handle the trains carrying deputies, coal and iron police or nonunion men. The Lehigh Valley Company men met at the same town and will not handle soft coal that may be wanted to displace hard fuel, and at Kingston, Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Company employees protested against the hauling of

soft coal and condemned the action of railroad conductors in acting as deputies. Wilkesbarre, Pa., June 9.—President Mitchell left here at 11:05 over the Lehigh Valley railroad for New York, where he will meet Carroll D. Wright, United States commissioner of labor. Mr. Wright, it is believed, will directly represent President Roosevelt.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE.

NEWS OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

FOR WAGE EMANCIPATION.

Further Particulars from the Denver Labor Conventions.

Denver, June 4.—Following are the resolutions by which the Western Labor Union committed itself to Social Democracy:

"Whereas, the time has come for undivided, independent working class political action; therefore, be it,

"Resolved, That the representatives of the Western Labor union, in convention assembled, do hereby declare in favor of International Socialism, and adopt the platform of the Socialist party of America in its entirety as the political platform and programme of said organization.

"Resolved, That we earnestly appeal to all members of the Western Labor union, and to the working class in general, to be governed by the provisions of this resolution."

Denver, June 1.—A big crowd of convention delegates and others listened to a speech by Debs at the West Turner hall last evening. Addresses were also made by Father Hagerty, W. H. Wise and Rev. Victor Southworth. A branch was formed before the meeting closed.

Last night a plain but substantial banquet was held at the Home Dairy restaurant. It was like a huge picnic party, jolly, talkative and democratic. Lieut. Gov. Contes presided. Debs, Morrison,

Father Hagerty, Rody Kenehan, McDonald and John O'Neill spoke. Among other things the latter said: "Since coming to Denver I have learned that the air is saturated with Socialism. We Socialists are holding up to the world the inequities that have paled the cheeks of men and furrowed their brows for years." Enthusiasm reached a high pitch and culminated in cheers when Debs closed with the prophetic words: "The factory shall become a veritable palace, a place of scientific study, and the city a thing of beauty and joy forever."

MINISTERS CHALLENGED.

Denver, June 2.—Arroused over the criticism of certain Denver ministers from their pulpits last night of Socialism, and the impetus given to the socio-political movement incident to the presence of Eugene V. Debs, Father T. J. Hagerty and W. H. Wise, and also the action of the Western labor conventions, the Socialist city central committee today issued a challenge to the ministers.

The challenge was issued in the form of a resolution, which was adopted by the committee. It reads: "Whereas, the ministers of religion, by their teachings, are holding up to the world the inequities that have paled the cheeks of men and furrowed their brows for years." Enthusiasm reached a high pitch and culminated in cheers when Debs closed with the prophetic words: "The factory shall become a veritable palace, a place of scientific study, and the city a thing of beauty and joy forever."

OUT FOR SOCIAL DEMOCRACY.

The Western Labor Union yesterday held a majority of four-fifths of its membership declared in favor of Socialism and independent political action, and this morning the miners' convention will do the same.

In both conventions the debate lasted all day. When the plan was adopted in the Western Labor Union convention there was much cheering.

President Boyce's plan is to place speakers all over the Western field to debate Socialism and the farmers and other classes are to be enlisted in support of the reform. The movement is to be national and even international.

The vote on Socialism in the Western Federation of Miners stood 230 to 73. The Western Labor Union vote stood 56 to 13.

Denver, June 5.—Ever since Debs' arrival in Denver, his hotel has been shadowed by detectives so as to see what delegates came to see him. Father Hagerty today made a sketch of the situation in the Social Democratic Herald. The Amalgamated Coffee Company and others have done their utmost to block the efforts toward Socialism, but have failed. There is great rejoicing.

GENERAL NOTES.

Peace between the striking machinists and the Allis-Chalmers company in Chicago is said to be near, owing to the installation of a new general manager by the company.

Blacksmith helpers have organized at Milwaukee and a national association will be formed.

Practically all the great tobacco interests of this country and Cuba have been consolidated by the tobacco trust. Ten big combines have now been merged as follows: American Tobacco Co., \$70,000,000; Continental Tobacco Co., \$100,000,000; American Snuff Co., \$25,000,000; Atlantic Snuff Co., \$10,000,000; Havana-American Tobacco Co., \$10,000,000; American Cigar Machinery Co., \$20,000,000; Havana Tobacco Co., \$25,000,000; Havana Commercial Co., \$20,000,000; Henry Clay & Co., \$7,000,000; Cabanas Co., capital not given. The total capitalization of the new octopus is put at \$350,000,000, while some assert that it is over half a billion. A glance at the directorate shows that the Standard oil and iron, steel and railway magnates are in control.

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SPECIAL FEATURES:

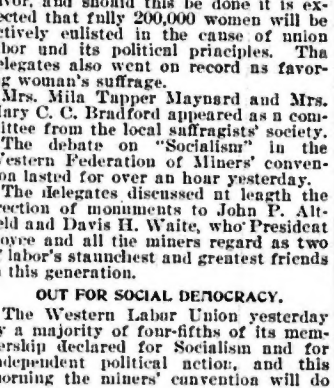
An Appendix of 10,000 Difficult Words, Pronouncing Vocabulary of Scripture Names, Greek and Latin Proper Names, Modern Geographical Names, Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms, Compendium of Biography, Heroes and Heroines of Prose and Poetry, Dictionary of Names de Plume, Dictionary of Mythology, Dictionary of Musical Terms, Dictionary of Familiar Allusions, Lexicon of Foreign Phrases, Dictionary of Abbreviations, and FOUR BEAUTIFULLY COLORED PLATES showing in their actual color, Flags of Various Nations, U. S. Naval Flags, Pilot Signals of Various Nations, Yacht Club Signals, Shoulder Straps for Officers.

This is a big dictionary that any student or householder may be proud to have as a reference work. It measures 8 by 11 inches and weighs 5 pounds. It is listed in the publishers' catalogue as \$4.25, when bound in sheepskin, with marginal index.

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The Pinkerton that Shadowed Debs. (Sketch for Herald by Father Hagerty.)

What Disciplined Armies Mean.

Count Tolstoi on Right and Wrong Wars.

IN the Arabian Nights there is a story of a traveler who, being cast upon an uninhabited island, found a little old man with withered legs sitting on the ground by the side of a stream. The old man asked the traveler to take him on his shoulder and to carry him over the stream. The traveler, who was not so soon as the old man, settled on the traveler's shoulders than the former twined his legs round the latter's neck and would not get off again. Having control of the traveler, the old man drove him about as he liked, plucked fruit from the trees and ate it himself, not giving any to his bearer, and abused him in every way.

This is just what happens with the people who give soldiers and money to the governments. With the money the governments buy guns and hire or train up by education subversive, brutalized military commanders. And these commanders, by means of an artificial system of stupefaction, perfected in the course of ages and called discipline, make those who have been taken as soldiers into a disciplined army. When the governments have in their power this instrument of violence and murder, that possesses no will of its own, the whole people are in their hands, and they do not let them go again, and not only prey upon them, but

also abuse them, instilling into the people, by means of a pseudo-religious and patriotic education, loyalty to and even adoration of themselves—that is, of the very men who keep the whole people in slavery and torment them.

It is not for nothing that all the kings, emperors, and presidents esteem discipline so highly, are so afraid of any breach of discipline, and attach the highest importance to reviews, maneuvers, parades, ceremonial marches and other such nonsense. They know that it all maintains discipline, and that not only their power, but their very existence depends on discipline.

A disciplined army is not even required for a defensive war, as has often been shown in history, and as was again demonstrated the other day in South Africa. A disciplined army is only needed for conquest—that is, for robbery, or for fratricide or parricide, as was expressed by that most stupid or insolent of crowned personages, William II, who made a speech to his recruits telling them they had sworn obedience to him, and ought to be ready to kill their own brothers and fathers should he desire it. Disciplined armies are the means by which they, without using their own hands, accomplish the greatest atrocities.

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Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday in each month at Kaiser's Hall, 298 Fourth Street.

Metal Trades Section meets first and third Monday.
Label Section meets every second and fourth Wednesday.
Building Trades Section meets second and fourth Thursday.
Miscellaneous Section meets first and third Thursday.

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Chestnut St. J. Reichert, Financial
Secretary.

Gleanings from Socialistic Fields.

Across the Herring Pond.

Berlin police have been notified that if they vote for Socialism they will be discharged.

Correspondence Rio Janeiro says the Socialist movement is making rapid progress in South American cities. The unions and strikes are multiplying, but "the authorities are on the alert."

Union Labor party of Queensland, Australia, elected twenty-four members of the Legislature and polled 28,500 votes. The old parties combined elected forty-two members and polled 35,000 votes.

A Belgium workman named Demarez, who was seriously wounded in the conflict in Rue Haute, died in a hospital. That makes twelve deaths resulting from the universal suffrage struggle in Belgium.

We regret to have to record the death of Paschal Grousset, who was Minister for Foreign Affairs under the Paris Commune. After the fall of the Commune he was arrested while attempting to escape in female attire, and was nearly lynched by the Versailles. He was one of the first batch of prisoners tried by the military courts, and was sentenced to transportation to New Caledonia. On March 19, 1874, Grousset, with Henri Rochefort, Jourde, and three others, succeeded in escaping on an Australian vessel which landed them in Sydney. In June, 1874, Paschal Grousset published the story of his escape and the horrors of convict life in the London Times. He afterwards settled down in London for ten years, acting as London correspondent of the Paris Temps, under the pen name of "Phillip Daryl." An article he wrote on the Irish question obtained him an interview with Mr. Gladstone, who was much struck with his ability. On returning to Paris after the amnesty, Grousset became a deputy, in 1893, as a Radical Socialist for one of the divisions of the Seine—Justice, London.

Michael Davitt is responsible for the adoption by the Irish members of Parliament of the present policy of open manifestation of sympathy with the "fighters for freedom." This stand has greatly incensed the British people and estranged many hitherto prominent Liberal leaders, like Lord Rosebery and Mr. Asquith, from the Home Rule cause. But this is only a temporary irritation, though very natural under the circumstances. It is exceedingly unpleasant to the English rulers of Ireland, but very instructive to Great Britain's jealous continental neighbors, who realize thereby for the first time in a generation that three or four millions of England's subjects are so intensely disaffected with her rule as to elect to Parliament "rebels" like Captain Arthur Lynch, and to cheer openly when a Boer victory is announced in the House of Commons. Since Mr. Davitt's return from South Africa, where he went to gather material for his pro-Boer history of the South African war (just published

ed by Funk & Wagnalls Company), he has, both directly and through the Boer representatives in Europe, kept in as close touch as possible under the circumstances with the Boers in the field.

The Barkowski Meeting.

Comrade G. A. Barkowski's Milwaukee dates for meetings in the Polish language are as follows:

Monday evening, June 16, Malmarowski's hall, 958 Pulaski street, Eighteenth ward.

Tuesday evening, June 17, Birk's hall, Ninth avenue and Forest Home avenue, Eleventh ward.

Wednesday evening, June 18, Hall corner North Pierce and Hadley streets, Twenty-first ward.

Thursday evening, June 19, Kraal's hall, Eleventh avenue and Rogers street, Fourteenth ward.

Friday evening, June 20, Malmarowski's hall, 958 Pulaski street, Eighteenth ward.



The above effective poster-like cut of Comrade Wilschire was used in the Canadian papers during his campaign for Parliament from the West Elgin district. The Canamucks are becoming as familiar with his face as they are with that of Santa Claus and King Edward.

Notice—Owing to the crowded condition of our columns this week the report of the state fund—a long list—is held over to next week.

The postoffice department has taken the postoffice away from the Washington colony called: Home. There are 100 members in the colony who are more or less injured by this piece of capitalistic plug-ugliness. But what do you expect?

We have a fine paper edition of Bellamy's Equality, selling at 50 cents. Has a portrait of Bellamy. It ought to be on your parlor table.

The Home Field.

Missouri holds a state convention this week at Springfield.

Eugene V. Debs contemplates settling in Denver permanently.

French Socialists have organized a branch at Alexandria, Ind.

Comrades Deba, Wise, Hagerty and Stitt Wilson will take active part in the Colorado campaign.

Secretary Greenbaum delivered an address to assembled trade unions on Memorial day at St. Louis.

Secretary Greenbaum reports the issuance of a state charter to Utah. Whether the friction there has been settled or the charter goes to a faction is not stated.

Comrade William E. Walker, candidate for governor of Michigan, has begun a tour of that state. He will make street corner speeches, assisted by a phonograph.

The national propaganda fund is now \$333.18. Last week the Twenty-first ward, Brooklyn, gave \$3. W. C. Wagner, St. Louis, \$1, and the Wilkesbarre branch \$3.

The Socialists of Philadelphia nominated the following county ticket: For sheriff, Comrade Slick; coroner, Elhier; county commissioners, Comrades Myers and Hecker.

Vrooman's co-operative movement near Kansas City is reported to have secured control of six of the largest wheat elevators in the Kansas wheat district and two of the largest flouring mills.

Max Hayes got ninety-two votes in Toronto for delegate to the A. F. of L. from the I. T. U. a few votes less than Morrison. At St. Joseph, Mo., he led Morrison by one vote.

The Milwaukee Social Democratic Baseball Club will play the George Ziegler, on Sunday, June 15, at Twenty-second and Lincoln avenues, at 3 o'clock in the morning.

The Industrial Advocate of Pittston, Pa., organ of the C. I. U., says there are 3000 workmen in and about that city who are ready to join the Socialist party or an independent labor party. Clubs are forming in all the wards.

The courts in Minnesota have sustained the complaint of the S. L. P. and our comrades are not allowed to change to the name Socialist party, but must content themselves with the name Social Democratic party.

Comrade Debs left Denver this week for a canvass of the Northwestern states after which he will make thirty speeches in Colorado, from August 1 to 30. He then goes to Daveport, Ia., where he will deliver the Labor Day oration.

If Oregon's election was held in November instead of June, and we could have three such men as J. Stitt Wilson, Carl D. Thompson and Rev. Ben F. Wilson in the state until that time, we could easily poll 20,000 Socialist votes.—People's Press.

Comrade E. B. Ford of the Fairbault (Minn.) Referendum, writes to his paper from his editorial sanctum in the county jail, saying: "I am here for the crime of attempting to prevent crime." His paper lives, although a contractor who claimed to have been slandered, secured his incarceration.

Comrade Hale of the People's Press of Oregon has asked his readers to give him a two-week's respite after the vigorous campaign just closed. He says he force hardly stopped to eat or sleep up to the day of election and they want to look the door of the print-shop and run away to the mountains or the coast for a complete rest.

The Socialists of Ohio held their state convention at Columbus May 30 and put up the following state ticket: Secretary of state, Max S. Hayes, Cleveland; supreme judge, Dr. G. P. Maxwell, Mansfield; dairy and food commissioner, George Hammett, Fremont; member board of public works, William C. Edwards, Portsmouth. Comrade F. G. Strickland of Yellow Springs was made state organizer.

Our comrades ought to organize baseball nines in all parts of the country. Anything that gets the people out into the sunlight is in the interests of the race. As baseball is rather too hazy a sport for some people—just those who are in need of exercise—we suggest that cricket eleven be formed. Cricket is a fine game that has never been given due attention in this country. It is quieter than baseball, but excellent sport, beating golf all hollow.

While the Socialist Labor Party has nearly disappeared from the field of Canadian politics, the Canadian Socialist League is making wonderful headway, and is now unchallenged as the representative Socialist Party of Canada. While the S. L. P. believes in abuse, the C. S. League believes in argument. There you have the story in a nutshell.—Industrial Hanner, London, Ont.

Comrade Debs writes us from Denver: "We will at once establish headquarters here and make this the basis of our operations." Comrade William H. Wise and Father Hagerty will have charge of headquarters here and manage the campaign in this state, which we propose shall be a red-hot one from start to finish. A complete state ticket is to be elected in Colorado and you can set it down as foregone that with the labor unions fighting with us we shall roll up a vote that will startle the natives."

The national committee at St. Louis decided favorably on a request from the provincial secretary of the Canadian party to send a fraternal delegate to the convention at Toronto between September 1 and 13, and nominations are now closed for by the branches. The nominations will close July 1. The only trouble with such purely honorary missions is that the money they cost comes out of people who must sacrifice in order to give. The nominations in organized states must be sent to the state chairman; in unorganized states to the national secretary.

Comrade Wilschire, who visited Milwaukee the past week, gives the following figures of the vote in Canada: His vote for West Elgin was 421, of which he received 375 in St. Thomas alone—out of 2500—and they were the first votes ever cast in that place for a Socialist. In North Toronto, Comrade Margaret Haile got 81 votes. Wilschire has begun suit against Assistant Postmaster General Madden, he informed us.

Will our Milwaukee comrades please send us the addresses of new dealers and newstands that do not keep The Herald on sale.

Make a try for that dictionary premium. A dictionary is an everyday necessity.

WHAT THE WORKERS ARE ABOUT.

AGENTS FOR THE HERALD.

I. Goldstein, 227 Clinton street, New York.
Fruit stand.
H. Viderson, 78 Graham avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.
E. Vandervoort, 148 South Peoria street, Chicago.
James Lambert, Socialist Temple, 128 S. Western avenue, Chicago, Ill.
L. Juter, 42 Governor street, New York, takes subscriptions for this paper.

From The Mail Bag.

On Tuesday, June 3, Comrade Wilschire lectured here, and considering the poor advertising he had (the bill boards being taken up with Ringling Bros. circus), his posters were put up in odd corners, the lecture was quite a success and an audience of about 300 was very appreciative and applauded the speaker freely. The subject treated was "Socialism and the Trust Problem," and Comrade Wilschire handled his subject in his old familiar style, and which was a revelation even to quite a few thinking ones in the audience.

Of course we look at all agitation and propaganda, as a sower does, sowing the seed; what will the harvest be? Undoubtedly some of the seed falls in stony places, some is picked up by the birds, some is blown away by the winds of prejudice and special privilege, yet, judging from current comment, I am of the opinion that the seed has taken root and although the growth is apparently slow, the harvest will be good, and it remains for us all to loosen the soil around the young sprouts, when they appear, with the hoe of tolerance and sprinkle them with a solution of practical common sense. This is as I like about farming. Fraternally yours, Wm. L. Beness.

Kalamazoo, Mich., June 9.
La Grande, Or., May 29.—Dear Herald: I am very busy and have averaged almost one address a day since Xmas, through California, New Mexico, Colorado, and now in Oregon in the campaign. I have the two finest audience rooms going in Los Angeles and Fresno, and am writing to Deba today. I return to the Los Angeles Temple in June and have the Metropolitan Temple in Fresno engaged for July, and I will do everything I can for Bro. Debs while he is in the east. Watch the returns from Oregon! There were 1500 votes in 1900. I predict 6000 to 8000 in this coming election, though against fearful odds. Myself and colleagues are making a total of about 100 speeches in the state. J. Stitt Wilson.

Chicago, June 9.—Enclosed you will please find 50 cents to renew my subscription to the Social Democratic Herald for one year. You are making a splendid paper out of it now. Wishing you success, I am, yours fraternally, J. B. Smiley.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 31.—The Philadelphia Socialists held their county convention tonight at Labor Lyceum hall, nearly 200 delegates being present. Following nominations were made: Sheriff, Comrade Slick; coroner, Comrade Myers; county commissioners, Comrades Myers and Hecker. Philadelphia secured 1900 signatures to state nomination papers. Wm. Hoffungie.

Editor Herald—I heartily congratulate the Milwaukee comrades on the progress of Socialism in their city. Brooklyn. Ben Hanford.

Talks with the Workers.

It is very evident that there is a campaign coming on, by the way some of our state comrades are warming up and sending in new subscribers. The old stand-bys are up and doing, and new stand-bys are coming into view.—Comrade Schults is peppering South Milwaukee with Social Democracy, to judge from the lists of subscribers he sends this office each week.—Branch 3, Milwaukee, will send out 200 copies a week for ten weeks to names supplied by the members from among their ne-

quaintances. The branch got a lower rate by agreeing to write the wrappers themselves.—Comrade Evans of Brodhead, spite of poor health, is setting a pace for activity that many a younger comrade might well follow. All honor to him! In a recent letter, he said: "I have done a great deal better than I expected when I began." Aye, to that! Here's vim for you! One comrade writes: "After getting the matter ready for the mail, I thought it would look and sound better to make it a tender and so went out and hunted up another quarter."—Comrade Stark of Louisville sends in a big batch of names, mostly of trade unionists.—It must be rich land indeed, where a hustler like Comrade Richards of Richmond Center lives, for his orders show he is sowing lots of seed for Social Democracy.—By the way: Look at the number on your wrapper and don't let your subscription run out through carelessness.—That inapp sum from Comrade Dietzen, now in Germany, given the state fund a fine boost. Others may not be circumstanced so as to do as handsomely, but they can do

in their proportion. It may be well to state for the benefit of new comers in the ranks, that Comrade Dietzen's father, Joseph Dietzen, was a comrade of Karl Marx.—The health officer at Rocky Ford, Cal., Comrade Keudig, is one of a band of the faithful who are spreading Merrie England and other literature. They are doubtless resolved to drive out various capitalistic epidemics with one of a more healthful type. Good.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENTS.
J. L. Adams, Me.—As you will see we already had the article. Thanks just the same. They are truly eye-openers. The writer of this agrees with the contents of circular enclosed. May make future use of it.

W. L. B., Kalamazoo—Shall watch your experiment with the "trumpet" with interest. Papers sent.

W. E. B., La Crosse.—Cannot give you an opinion on the new edition of Hind's American Communities; we have not seen a copy.

NATIONAL PLATFORM OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS.

The Socialist party of America, in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by the individual worker. Today the machine, which is but an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. This ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of livelihood and the poverty and misery of the workers, and it divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage-workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives to the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and the schools, and enables them to reduce the working men to a state of intellectual, physical, and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition of Socialism also depend upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

As such means we advocate:

1. The collective ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines. No part of the revenue therefrom to be used on the reduction of the taxes of the capitalist class, but the entire revenue to be applied first, to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employees, and then to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumers.

2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production, to decrease the share of the capitalist class and to increase the share of the workers in the product of their labor.
3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age, the revenue therefor to be derived from the government.

4. The inauguration of a system of public industries for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose, in order that the workers may receive the product of their toil.

5. The education of all children up to the age of 18 years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing and food.

6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.
7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in making these demands as steps in the overthrow of capitalism and in the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth, we warn the people against the public ownership demands made by capitalist political parties, which always result in perpetuating the capitalist system through the compromise or defect of the Socialist revolution.



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